

25. ~~(New)~~ The device of Claim 24, wherein the outer layer is made from an oxide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Ti, Cr, Ta, and Al.

Sub B4) 26. (New) The device of Claim 24, wherein the outer layer is made from a nitride of a metal selected from the group consisting of Ti, Cr, Ta, and Al.

27. (New) The device of Claim 24, wherein the outer layer is made from a carbide of a metal selected from the group consisting of Ti, Cr, Ta, and V.

28. (New) The device of Claim 24, wherein the outer surface of the outer layer includes means for delivering a therapeutic agent.

29. (New) The device of Claim 24, wherein the outer surface of the outer layer is textured.

30. (New) The device of Claim 29, wherein the textured outer surface is adapted for receiving a therapeutic agent to be delivered during use.

A2 31. (New) The device of Claim 30, wherein the structure of the textured surface is selected from the group consisting of micro-pores, grooves, and cross-hatched lines.

32. ~~(New)~~ The device of Claim 24, wherein the outer layer is fabricated to have a crystallographic structure for minimizing surface energy of the outer layer so that chemical and biological reactions at the outer surface ^{are} ~~is~~ reduced.

33. (New) The device of Claim 18, wherein the visibility increasing means includes a pre-selected percentage of the core being a radio-opaque element.

34. (New) The device of Claim 18, wherein the core is an alloy comprising a pre-selected percentage of a radio-opaque element so that the visibility of the core to *in-vivo* viewing methods is increased.

35. (New) The device of Claim 34, wherein the percentage is approximately 70 percent.

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36. (New) The device of Claim 24, wherein the visibility increasing means includes a radio-opaque material disposed in the core.

37. (New) The device of Claim 18, wherein the device is a coronary stent.

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100